

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: MSADAMS@ubvms.cc.buffalo.edu
Subject: [3728] 72 Newsletter?
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9510031503.C539477332-0100000@ubvms.cc.buffalo.edu>

I joined the NE-QRP in about June. Received the April "back issue" at that time. Have not gotten a 72 since. Have there been any?

73 es 72-less,
Mark NE#376

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: dh@deneb.csustan.edu (Doug Hendricks)
Subject: [3748] ARCI Board Submission
Message-ID: <9510040352.AA16389@deneb.csustan.edu>

Guys, I am throwing my hat in the ring for the Board of Directors of ARCI. Here is a copy of the resume that I sent Buck. I am posting it here as a guide to the rest of you as to an idea of what to submit. I would also appreciate your vote.

.....
My name is Doug Hendricks, KI6DS and I have been a ham since 1976, when I was first licensed as WB0YVK living in Kansas. I currently hold an Extra Class License. I live in Dos Palos, California with my wife, JoAnne, of 24 years. My vocation is education, as I am a high school biology teacher and coach basketball. JoAnne and I have two daughters, Cassie, who was married this past summer and lives in Merced with her husband, and Robbie who is a sophomore at Cal State Sacramento.

My experiences with QRP include being the cofounder of the NorCal QRP Club which currently has over 1400 members worldwide, editing QRPP, the Journal of the NorCal QRP Club, being project manager for 3 NorCal kits; the NorCal 40, the Sierra, and the Cascade, and serving on the Board of Directors of ARCI for the past 2 years in an appointed capacity.

I feel that ARCI should serve as the national umbrella organization for QRP. It should publish a comprehensive journal with current state of the art construction projects, operating information, contest information, and QRP information in general. ARCI should also sponsor QRP events at local, regionnal and national hamfests to encourage growth in membership. I feel that board members should be in attendance at these events. I have attended Dayton and Pacificon for the past three years, and plan on doing so in the future.

I also feel that board members of ARCI should be actively involved in the hobby. To this end I do the following: attend the Livermore and Foot Hill swap meets every month, participate in the SSB QRP net nightly on 3760 at 10:30 PM Pacific time, subscribe to 13 different QRP publications, and

have built 7 QRP construction projects this year. I am a subscriber to the the QRP Reflector on internet, and am a regular contributor.

During my tenure on the board, we have had some hard decisions to make and we made them. I feel that ARCI is on the way back to being a premier QRP organization and would appreciate the opportunity to help shape the future. We have made great strides in the past year, but the job is not done. I would like another term to implement the needed changes for continued improvement.

The idea of regionnal representation on the Board of Directors was mine, and I believe it is necessary to insure a broad base of personnel. To support this, I am running for the Western Representative and would like to have your support and vote. 72, Doug Hendricks, KI6DS

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Glen Leinweber <leinwebe@mcmail.CIS.McMaster.CA>
Subject: [3737] cascade grounding
Message-ID: <1995Oct03.181031-0400@[130.113.234.7]>

Some time back, a question was asked about ground loops, and what they actually were. There's nothing like an actual case to illustrate something as complex as this. Dave has found a CLASSIC ground loop problem in the Cascade and described it beautifully:

>ATTENTION CASCADE OWNERS,
>

>I have discovered an instability problem in the Cascade. The good news is
>that its easy to fix! There are two factors present in the rig that cause
>the problem. One is the capacitive coupling to the rear panel from the
>collector of Q7 (by way of the mounting, with mica dielectric). The other
>factor is that the rear panel is well grounded to the board ONLY AT THE
>FAR END FROM Q7, by the angle bracket (the BNC connector is insulated
>from the panel). What happens is that RF current flows through the Q7
>mounting capacitance-to-the-panel and then to ground. But, it has
>to go all the way to the other end of the panel to reach a good ground!
>That RF current then flows back through the ground plane to Q7 emitter,
>coupling to the low-level circuits earlier in the TX chain, and causing
>feedback. This feedback shows up as wideband oscillations (noise) on the
>transmitted signal about 2MHz wide!

This sort of problem is mighty difficult to track down. In many cases, including this one, circuits work almost as they should, but have dissapointing performance. In other cases, oscillations corrupt proper circuit function entirely. Gotta watch out how you ground those high gain circuits!

Congratulations on a great troubleshooting job.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [3731] CASCADE MOD. BULLETIN #2
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951003125814.2646A-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

ATTENTION CASCADE OWNERS,

I have discovered an instability problem in the Cascade. The good news is that its easy to fix! There are two factors present in the rig that cause the problem. One is the capacitive coupling to the rear panel from the collector of Q7 (by way of the mounting, with mica dielectric). The other factor is that the rear panel is well grounded to the board ONLY AT THE FAR END FROM Q7, by the angle bracket (the BNC connector is insulated from the panel). What happens is that RF current flows through the Q7 mounting capacitance-to-the-panel and then to ground. But, it has to go all the way to the other end of the panel to reach a good ground! That RF current then flows back through the ground plane to Q7 emitter, coupling to the low-level circuits earlier in the TX chain, and causing feedback. This feedback shows up as wideband oscillations (noise) on the transmitted signal about 2MHz wide!

Screwing on the bottom of the case will usually stop the feedback because of panel-to-panel contact, but it is not a reliable solution. The only sure solution is to provide a good RF ground (low inductance) connection for the panel at the BNC end. You want the shortest possible path through the panel from the Q7 mounting point to the ground plane of the board.

I recommend drilling a 4-40 clearance hole through the panel below board level, in line with the BNC side of Q7. 3/16-inch up from the panel bottom is a good level. Put a 4-40 screw through the hole, head on the outside of the panel. Add a 4-40 solder lug, lock washer, and nut on the inside of the panel, lug facing up. Bend the lug 90 degrees (horizontal) so it points to the front panel. Solder a short piece of wire or solder wick to the lug and to the nearest ground point(s) (C60 and C64, panel sides). This is all under the board.

This fix will render your Cascade stable under all conditions, panels off or on, paint on the panels, etc. Your signal will be clean. Sorry we didn't catch this earlier!

72, Dave, W6EMD

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com
Subject: [3734] CMOS Super Keyer 3 Update
Message-ID: <951003170444_115386927@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Hi all...I have asked Byron to forward this to the list because my server (20,000 people on it, but its gov't supported so what can we expect) won't forward mail to qrp-1@lehigh.edu for some reason???

I completed the SuperKeyer last week and despite one cold solder joint (my fault, obviously) it works flawlessly (almost)....

All the features work, I am most impressed with the memory capacity which is 18 messages of up to 85 characters (not including word spaces)!...Lots of gab type phrases possible here...

I am thrilled by the automatic spacing (I know some don't like it but what do I have to compare it with....nothing!)

The only "bug in the ointment" is when you shut it off, (power switch on the supply) it seems to hold power for several key presses, gradually winding down, as it were.....when started up again within a few minutes, it "misbehaves".....ie: doesn't give a cheery dahdahdah dahditdah....probably something inherent in the design ;-)...

73's for now....Stan VE7SKT sskelton@ckn.etc.bc.ca

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: jaykumar@crypt.erie.ge.com (Jay Kumar)
Subject: [3738] DDS "Dream" VFO
Message-ID: <9510032212.AA23502@crypt.erie.ge.com>

VE7LDH wrote:

->N6KR writes, among other things:
->> * Frequency synthesis, whether PLL or DDS, adds \$20 to \$80 to the
->> retail cost, not counting any needed shielding, partly because of
[Snip]

->I can vouch for these figures; another local ham and I are playing
->around with DDS chips and microcontrollers to see what we can come up
->with.
[Snip]

Since we're talking DDS & prices, FYI:

A "DDS Dream VFO" is featured in October issue of 73 Amateur Radio Today.
The author, KD1JV promises a complete kit at \$225.

73,

Jay KB3BGV

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Fred Jones <fred@unimem.com>
Subject: [3749] Fox
Message-ID: <199510040351.VAA14216@unimem.com>

>From Colorado Springs, I finally heard the fox, KV2X, around 0155 UTC.

I could hear him just enough to tell his call letters when I listened many
times. Very weak! Bad chirp!

73,

Fred
WB4BDS

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: H Smith <hbs@crl.com>
Subject: [3760] Fox on 7110
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951004052255.17770C-100000@crl8.crl.com>

In order to help me plan for Thursday's Fox hunt:

Is 8 CDT (thats 9 eastern, 6 pacific) too early to get on 7110? I want
to give everybody a fair shot.

I will post my 7110 times later today.

Smitty, NA5K

Henry Smith (hbs@crl.com)

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: moyle@essc.psu.edu (Al Moyle)
Subject: [3755] FOX:
Message-ID: <9510041109.AA26625@seismic.geosc.psu.edu>

I couldn't even hear the fox here in central PA ... tried off and on all evening and the closest I came was to hear KC5EQC working KV2X on about 7.113. Hope the conditions are better on Thurs!

72,

Al Moyle N3KFL

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3763] FOX: Future and past
Message-ID: <199510041353.NAA17591@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

No points for working past or future foxes, other than the joy of knowing that you might get them when it's their turn. :-) ;-)

Keep track of the number of the members of this group that you work using the list of the members on the ftp site. I'll give you a certificate for the number that you work.

I heard you work AA10C Paul, but I went after him as he was weak and fading. Catch you next time.

We'll have a miniature race for the highest IQ (as measured by the most worked members of qrp-1) count of separate members of this group worked during the foxhunt on 40M this season. This means all hours of the day and night from the beginning to the end of the #2 foxhunt. All of 40M allowed by your license class and don't forget the Novices around 7.110MHz.

On a note on the calling freqs of 7.110 and 7.040MHz. We get this every year, but these are the recommended freqs for

starting points for QRP ops. They are not in concrete and of course you can work anywhere rules and regs allow you to work. 7.030MHz is the recommended QRP 40M CW freq in Europe. So you might wanna slide down there, but I am for working above 7.040MHz also. If we don't someone else will.

I mentioned this last year and will drop in again this year. Since the Extra class band is below 7.025MHz and the digital crowd starts about 7.075MHz or even lower a lot of people will start calling CQ on 7.040MHz right between the two "areas". Expect lots of QRM when the band is open.

If you think it's bad now, wait until 3 years from now and the sunspot count is high enough. 10M is going to be a madhouse. Guaranteed. Why, 'cuz everyone is gonna be there.

FYI

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3750] FOX: report from TX
Message-ID: <199510040425.EAA17004@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Well maybe I did hear Tom KV2X and thought he was DX!! :-)

I spent over an hour just listening around 7.040MHz (chosen because it is the recommended gathering freq for QRPers in the USofA and we fought the digital guys last year and we gotta continue to hold our ground, but I didn't hear so much digital as lots of QRO stations on or near the freq).

At 0137 UTC I plopped down around 7.044MHz and gave AA10C a holler after he finished with WB8ZJL. I only got the 229 and I gave him a 449, so not all that great band conditions. Then I was immediately called by WB8E (Walt) and thereafter W1HUE/7 (not portable, but indicating his call area, which is used periodically by stations with calls from outside the operating area which helps me home in on geographical location). Larry

and I got clobbered by a QRO station and I asked him to move up 4KHz (difficult for me to determine accurately with the NC40a right now but when I get the KC-1 installed it will help a lot).
Lost Larry on the move, sorry Larry.

I moved up to 7.050MHz and worked an 8 for 35 minutes in MI.

Thanks to all who participated and do stay around after working the fox or feel free to pick a free freq and call CQ with /QRP at the end of your call or use CQ IQ (Internet QRP).
Please use a 3x3 call, i.e. CQ CQ CQ DE K5FO K5FO K5FO/QRP K.
This makes it faster and friendlier.

A good point was made on the Novice freqs when the FOX moves down you guys stay around and rack up the IQ count. :-)
Work all 600!!!

See you Thursday night. Same Bat Channel.

I'll be on for a while trying to catch up to N6ULU.

dit dit es gl

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3758] FOX: rig
Message-ID: <199510041241.MAA17458@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Rig here was the NC40a from Wilderness wid 0.95W out on 90' long wire in the Pecan Trees. Up about 5M. So make the long wire 30M long.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: BFG7AJC@NSDL.BELL-ATL.COM
Subject: [3757] FOX: Very weak in Columbia, MD

Message-ID: <00316000013796530000002*@MHS>

At about 0145 UTC finally heard W9LTL (if memory correct), Pete in Crystal Lake, IL, in QSO with fox. Fox weaker than packet QRM and didn't detect chirp here. Will try new fox on Thursday. Dave, KA3EAJ, bfg7ajc@bell-atl.com

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: N1QYZ@aol.com
Subject: [3744] Foxhunt Results
Message-ID: <951003220648_115627467@emout04.mail.aol.com>

Sitting here in front of my rig listening for the Fox I finally get tired of the static and pounce on anything that peeps. Had nice Qso with Jack, K8BVJ, talked about my Index and sounded real excited when I told him that the waiting list was down :-)

Heard AB5OU, in what sounded like a Qso with KV2X but couldn't hear the fox:-)

Heard N9DD in conversation with a 1 call, but still no Fox. Is he on a Beam? Talked to Paul, WB8ZJL, 58N from MI, nice signal. Barely heard the caller that tail-ended him after our exchange, Boy, that one's in the noise, K5 something.

Holy Poop, That's Chuck, K5F0, (Got so excited that my fist goes all to hell.

Were you running 0.95W?) gave him a 229, he moved up to a 329 during the exchange. Thanks Chuck, I didn't find the Fox but had fun in the process.

Guess that's what it's all about :-D

Hope you all had great luck tonight!

72 & 73's

Bill, AA10C

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Allen Jones <ajones@niia.net>
Subject: [3746] Foxhunt results
Message-ID: <199510040322.WAA13772@silver.niia.net>

Heard both of the foxes here in NW Indiana. Worked Tom, KV2X at 0128 UTC and received a 519 report. He had a very bad chirp on his signal. Difficult to copy on the OHR Classic's narrow receiver.

Had to take a phone call shortly after working Tom. When I got back I tuned around a bit and heard NA5K working a one land station I believe. He had a very good signal. Smitty signed and the W1 station kept the freq. I tuned between 7030 and 7050 for the next half hour and never heard him again.

50% success rate for my first time out.

72 de Allen, K9DZE

From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: nwqrp@scn.org (SCN User)
Subject: [3719] foxhunt, travel
Message-ID: <199510031501.IAA20254@scn.org>

QRP-L Gang,

Well, I'm very excited about the foxhunt. I am also excited about my vacation. Marcia (KC7MCW) and I will be driving to the Canadian Rockies for a backpacking trip this week. We will operate the QRP+ mobile with a Hustler mounted on Marcia's bicycle, which is on the bikerack. While on the trail, we will use an inverted vee.

The list is on postpone, but regular email will collect at SCN. I hope we will be able to reach INET folks to keep abreast of the foxhunt! Look for us on 40 and 20 meters, QRP frequencies.

72,
--Brian, KV9X

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      i                      NorthWest QRP Club
-=[scn]=-                      -----
      )(                      nwqrp@scn.org      --0---/\--
      /_|\ http://www.scn.org/scripts/menus/n/nwqrp/nwqrp.menu  /^\^/ ^^
                                     --NW QRP--
```

From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca (Paul Erickson)
Subject: [3767] Looking for KR6X
Message-ID: <9510041420.AA16075@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>

Does anyone know if Lee KR6X monitors this list? Worked him last night and he is my best dx so far after just getting back on the air.

cheers, Paul
ve7cqh

email: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Phillip Cuchetti <ab082@leo.nmc.edu>
Subject: [3754] pixie2
Message-ID: <Pine.ULT.3.90.951004045607.4415B-100000@leo.nmc.edu>

I ordered 2 pixie 2 kits from hsc 2 weeks ago.They have not yet arrived.
I have lost their 800 phone number.I need to check to see if they have a
problem.Can anyone give me their 800 number again so I can give them a call.
I appreciate it.....72//Phil KD8UX

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: "S. Miller" <smiller@motown.ge.com>
Subject: [3756] QRPP in New Jersey (Sleepless in New Jersey)
Message-ID: <199510041203.IAA07540@bear.MOTOWN.GE.COM>

The iron is hot but so far the mailbox is empty here in New Jersey.
I am trying to determine if anyone in NJ has gotten their QRPP yet.
I am also anxiously awaiting the arrival of my Cascade. Does anyone
have a feel for how many have gone out so far?
Signed
Sleepless in New Jersey
Steve Kd2Ed

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: lhalliday@creo.bc.ca
Subject: [3736] Re[2]: The ultimate QRP kit building experience
Message-ID: <9509038127.AA812757423@mail.creo.bc.ca>

N6KR writes, among other things:

> * Frequency synthesis, whether PLL or DDS, adds \$20 to \$80 to the
> retail cost, not counting any needed shielding, partly because of
> the rotary encoder (or DIP switches, which I still don't see on any
> rig used for casual operating on a non-channelized band). These
> costs are partly offset by the elimination of individual crystals in
> a premixer. However, the current drain is generally much higher, up

> to an extra 200mA for a DDS rig.

I can vouch for these figures; another local ham and I are playing around with DDS chips and microcontrollers to see what we can come up with. Initially, we're trying a Basic Stamp (a really cute system built around a PIC 16C56 microcontroller) as the microcontroller, since they're dead simple to apply, reasonably cheap, and easy to program. The **really** expensive item is the DDS chip, with Qualcomm's running about \$US50, and Analog Devices chips running even more. The microcontroller interface is simple (3 74LS164s), and we're playing with some LCD displays we found at a surplus place in Seattle. The slickest way to talk to the display is to send serial data from the Stamp to a second PIC microcontroller, already programmed to control LCD displays.

If you really want to, you can make a rotary encoder out of some transparent plastic and opto-isolators. Store-bought ones are not cheap...

Watch this space!

73 from Burnaby,
laura VE7LDH

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [3742] Sierra owner/experimenter needed as guinea pig
Message-ID: <v02130506ac979a44d0b5@[199.170.106.28]>

I need a special breed of QRPer to beta-test some Sierra transmitter changes that I've made for the first Wilderness Radio release. I'm looking for **one** or at the most **two** people who meet this description:

1. You have an original NorCal Sierra and at least 3 band modules;
2. Your power output was well under 2 watts or unstable on 15 meters when running the unit at 14VDC (which is necessary to get to 2 watts at a 50-ohm collector impedance, of course!);
3. You don't mind making a couple of cuts/jumpers on your Sierra board, changing around 10 parts, and tacking a couple on the bottom;
4. You are facile with electronics, have good test equipment, and can make careful before/after tests;

5. You have access to J309 JFET transistors!

(#5 will really separate the insiders from the garden variety antenna-hats. But...I could probably be talked into getting the J309s for you.)

The mission: make the transmitter changes that I'm going to making to the Wilderness Radio version of the Sierra, and later will be publishing in QRPP. I'll fax it or mail it to you, and ideally you would make the changes in a week or two and send me a report.

Reward: hopefully, better stability and higher, flatter power output on previously marginal bands. Nothing spectacular, just an evolutionary step necessary to make the rig easier to build and align by the average builder. No guarantees, though.

I know this is asking a lot, but is there anyone out there who's interested?

Thanks,
Wayne
N6KR

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: MSADAMS@ubvms.cc.buffalo.edu
Subject: [3765] Tuner/SWR Combo
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9510040947.A539576421-0100000@ubvms.cc.buffalo.edu>

Do I have a good idea here or what? I have been looking for an MFJ QRP Tuner but I guess all of you gents bought them all!

So the latest issue of 73 has a tuner/swr combo box. Hmmm, maybe I should build this thing. But maybe it would be neat to use the Super Simple SWR meter from K1KP that was in QST a few months back. I bought ght the board and it is just collecting dust. I do not have any torroids on hand, except th4e one to build the SWR bridge with. So I figure I can buy the KANGA Super T Tuner and combine the two in similar fashion to the one in 73. I could switch in 4 or 5 different resistor pairs in the SWR SWR Bridge to handle different power levels since the QST design is for one power only.

I anyone has any critical suggestions that might keep me out of trouble with this project I would appreciate the input.

Thanks es 72,
Marl

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: ptay1@pipeline.com (Paul Taylor)
Subject: [3761] unsubscribe paul taylor wb2gin
Message-ID: <199510041329.JAA10360@pipe6.nyc.pipeline.com>

Please get me off your list. this is my 3rd request.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: ptay1@pipeline.com (Paul Taylor)
Subject: [3764] unsubscribe paul taylor wb2gin
Message-ID: <199510041359.JAA09186@pipe5.nyc.pipeline.com>

help I cant get off the qrp-1 list and the list is overloading my mailbox.
anyone please help

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: msdooley@rdxsunhost.aud.alcatel.com (Michael S. Dooley)
Subject: [3726] Wire antenna help...?
Message-ID: <9510031835.AA08929@collie.aud.alcatel.com>

Well, if you haven't been taken to task yet, there's some fellow on here who uses the gutters on his house for an antenna with good results. Try it and see how well it works. Good Luck
Mike KE4PC

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>
Subject: [3720] RE: Antenna
Message-ID: <9510031523.AA18793@garnet.inel.gov>

In reply to a message posted yesterday (no name or call given) about antennas in a restricted neighborhood:

Does the house/condo/whatever have an accessible attic? If so, AND the house does not have metal siding, then the way to go would be to install antennas in the attic. You might have to run coax down the outside of the house if you can't fish it down thru vents, etc., but you can probably make it pretty invisible by painting it or running it next to trim, etc. I used a 10/15/20 meter trapped dipole in the attic of my condo in Connecticut and worked DXCC with it. I also loaded up the rain gutter and down spout on the back of the condo on 40 meters with good results -- but had to keep the power below 50W or I'd make the light on my neighbor's ceiling fan flash each time the rig was keyed!

I also had good luck with a 15M dipole strung along the ceiling in the third floor laundry room in a condo my wife was living in while attending school in Boulder a few years ago. Even managed to make a couple of contacts on 40M by loading up the vent from the hot water heater! (Used a cold water pipe for ground.)

So, you are not necessarily SOL, you just have to use your ingenuity!

"Any opinions expressed herein are my own and probably do
not agree with those of my employer, the U.S. Government
or my spouse"

--... ..--

Larry V. East (W1HUE)

Idaho Falls, ID

e-mail: LVE1@inel.gov

Packet: W1HUE@WT7B.ID.USA.NOAM

work: (208) 533-4005 home: (208) 529-2162

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: KT3A@aol.com
Subject: [3741] Re: Antenna
Message-ID: <951003193525_115499863@mail06.mail.aol.com>

I love the story of the guy who improved his ground on a second floor apartment by flushing *insulated* stranded wire down the toilet! (One end tied off, of course).

Reference "QRP Quarterly", April 86, "Invisible QRP", by George Hermann, N9BNH.

Let the nosey neighbors find that one!!

72 de cameron, kt3a

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Mike@g4kfk.demon.co.uk (Mike Gathergood)
Subject: [3753] Re: Antenna
Message-ID: <383@g4kfk.demon.co.uk>

In message <951003193525_115499863@mail06.mail.aol.com> KT3A@aol.com writes:

> I love the story of the guy who improved his ground on a second floor
> apartment by flushing *insulated* stranded wire down the toilet! (One end
> tied off, of course).

I bet he was flushed with success!
Did he have to wear cans to hear the weak dx though?

73

Mike * QRV around 0800 and 1800 most weekdays on GB3HL *
G4KFK * (Hillingdon 433.075/434.675) and also 51.83 MHz *

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [3762] Re: FOX HUNT RESULTS and RIG
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951004092208.22420A-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

I was out foxed as usual last night. My log:

0133 AA10C 579/579 Bill in NH
0145 NA5K 339/569 Tim nr Dallas

I also had WB8E (walt) and KF8AT (floyd) as well as a couple others on
2M fm as we looked for the fox and while talking about other topics.

Do I get any points for working FUTURE foxes??? :-)

73 CUThursday =paul= wb8zjl

p.s. rig was the corsair cranked down to abt 4 watts. I needed all
those beautiful Ten Tec filters!

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: "Stan Goldstein, N6ULU" <stan@cruzio.com>
Subject: [3751] Re: FOX: report from TX
Message-ID: <199510040519.WAA22811@mail5.netcom.com>

No fox sightings from sunny california, despite tuning the bands for at least an hour. Heard an xe2h? (forgot his call) right around 7040 , he was loud but musta been qro since he didnt hear several stations calling him.

I added 2 more dx stations last night so I think I'm 5 ahead of Chuck now. The dx season is picking up fast as I heard several loud Africans out tonight that I can work if I catch em before too many of the qro guys blast me out , Sometimes I can slip inbetween the qro'ers with a quick /qrp call , or sometimes a lucky tail end just off the dx freq . Oh yeah , the 2 new ones are AI and Marshall Islands .

Better get busy Chuck and anyone else that wants to try dxcc this year.
CU IN THE PILE_UPS..

--

Stan Goldstein

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM (Pete Rossi)
Subject: [3745] Re: Foxhunt Results
Message-ID: <9510040235.AA13562@gvlf6-a>

->Sitting here in front of my rig listening for the Fox I finally get tired of
->the static and pounce on anything that peeps. Had nice Qso with Jack, K8BVJ,
->talked about my Index and sounded real excited when I told him that the
->waiting list was down :-)
->Heard AB50U, in what sounded like a Qso with KV2X but couldn't hear the
->fox:-(
->Heard N9DD in conversation with a 1 call, but still no Fox. Is he on a Beam?
->Talked to Paul, WB8ZJL, 58N from MI, nice signal. Barely heard the caller
->that tail-ended him after our exchange, Boy, that one's in the noise, K5
->something.
->Holy Poop, That's Chuck, K5F0, (Got so excited that my fist goes all to hell.
-> Were you running 0.95W?) gave him a 229, he moved up to a 329 during the
->exchange. Thanks Chuck, I didn't find the Fox but had fun in the process.
-> Guess that's what it's all about :-D
->Hope you all had great luck tonight!
->72 & 73's
->Bill, AA10C

I was sort of hoping I had the wrong night.. or band or something.. Lots of activity but no fox heard or any trace of anyone calling/working him. Lots of activity though, but I did not hear any calls that I recognize

on here. I was tuning 7040 +/- 5 KHz from about 0030 to well past 0130 before I gave up.

Looks like it is going to be a repeat of last year's foxhunt.. I think I only worked 1 or to 2 of them last year.

How did 7040 ever get picked for this anyway? Between the packet and SSB it is amazing that anyone can work anything...

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com
Loral Defense Systems-Eagan (formerly Unisys Government Systems Group)
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Jeffrey Herman <jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu>
Subject: [3727] Re: NH6IL Min Parts Tx
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951003092231.4501A-100000@kahuna>

> Built the 80 Meter (Low Parts) Transmitter, designed by Jeff NH6IL, last

If only I were a designer, but alas, I am a lowly Mathematician. I cannot take credit for any of the QRP circuits that I drew up - they all came from two (out of print) ham projects books of mid 60s vintage. Each project that appeared on r.r.a.homebrew and the QRP list gave credit to the actual designers and their books.

My entire purpose in providing the schematics was to encourage more folks to heat up their soldering irons and build something - anything!

I'm very happy that some in fact did take up the challenge and found out how much fun and enjoyment can be derived from building and operating one's own rig.

I'm no longer sub'd to the QRP list - too much kit-chat. I QSY'd to the Boatanchors list and am very much enjoying the radio history discussions.

73 from Hawaii,
Jeff NH6IL (ex WA6QIJ)
"In dog years I'm dead."

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: washpenn!swider@vax.cs.pitt.edu
Subject: [3733] Re: Novice Foxhunt
Message-ID: <199510032050.QAA28765@vax.cs.pitt.edu>

> I'm not up to organizing such an event yet (I haven't made a contact in
>15+ years! :-)) but it's a great idea. Or perhaps a seperate event. Maybe
>like a novice roundup.

I'm just suggesting something informal, not an organized event. In other words, after the fox moves from the novice band let's hang around to see how many other qrp-1 ops we can work. Also, on the nights that there isn't going to be a fox on the novice freq, let's meet there anyway. It'll give all of us some contacts and hopefully allow us to upgrade for next year.

>Many thanks again!

No problem, I'll try to ship it tomorrow if I get home early enough tonight.

Rob
KB3BFM
washpenn!swider@vax.cs.pitt.edu

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: "Arjen Raateland, SYKE/YV, puh. 90-4030 0457" <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
Subject: [3725] Re: RE: The ultimate QRP kit building experie
Message-ID: <01HW0KRUOH0291WS0H@vyh21.vyh.fi>

>On Tue, 3 Oct 1995, Wayne Burdick wrote:

>>

>> >Only question is, WHY would ANYONE want a digital "bargraph" S-meter?

>>

>> I put one on my Sierra for three reasons:

>>

><SNIP : Reasons deleted>

>

>I think you completely missed the point. I (as well as many others)

>believe that S-Meters are about as useful as teats on a bull.

Perhaps a compromise: make it a QSA meter. Scale from 1-5.

I remember general license hams wielding QS Anna in 2 m phone contacts

in 1968 (in PA-land). As a Tech licensee without the need to know CW abbreviations I probably didn't understand what they meant at the time. But it is sometimes argued that in fact QSA is a more relevant way of indicating how strong a signal is coming in.

73,
Arjen, OH2ZAZ

P.S. I know, I know. The QSA scale goes from 1 to 5 because the ear cannot distinguish any finer steps. So, signal strength indicators aren't needed. But what if Wayne wants to design a built in SWR meter with a LED display? You wouldn't want the display to sit idle when listening. That would look like there is something broken in the rig ..

Arjen Raateland
Suomen Ymp ristö keskus / YV
--... ..-- ------ ---.. ..- ---..
Finnish Environment Agency, Helsinki, Finland
SAS Support
EMAIL: Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi
tel. +358 0 4030 0457
fax +358 0 4030 0490
-.-. -.-

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: "Mark J. Dulcey" <mdulcey@pryder.pn.com>
Subject: [3747] Re: Re[2]: The ultimate QRP kit building experience
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951003232013.7100A-1000000@pryder.pn.com>

On Tue, 3 Oct 1995 lhalliday@creo.bc.ca wrote:

> If you really want to, you can make a rotary encoder out of some
> transparent plastic and opto-isolators. Store-bought ones are not
> cheap...

A project that builds an optical encoder out of parts from an old computer mouse (or even a cheap new one) might be interesting. Most current mouse designs are opto-mechanical -- that is, they use two optical encoders, one for X and another for Y. Heck, the things already have CMOS controllers that read the encoders and produce output in a simple serial protocol, so a lot of the work is already done for you.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [3724] Re: S-meters
Message-ID: <v02130523ac9733beba0a@[199.170.106.28]>

>>>Only question is, WHY would ANYONE want a digital " bargraph" S-meter?

>> I put one on my Sierra

>I think you completely missed the point. I (as well as many others)
>believe that S-Meters are about as useful as teats on a bull.

Perhaps, but on the other hand, most of us are fascinated by blinking LEDs
regardless of the usefulness of the function performed.

:)

Wayne

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Thom <thom@li.net>
Subject: [3735] Re: S-meters
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951003174132.12012A-100000@linet01>

On Tue, 3 Oct 1995, Wayne Burdick wrote:

> >>>Only question is, WHY would ANYONE want a digital " bargraph" S-meter?

>

> >> I put one on my Sierra

>

> >I think you completely missed the point. I (as well as many others)

> >believe that S-Meters are about as useful as teats on a bull.

>

>

> Perhaps, but on the other hand, most of us are fascinated by blinking LEDs

> regardless of the usefulness of the function performed.
>
>
> :)
>
> Wayne
>

Hey that's the only reason I bought my TNC :)

Tom
WB2QDG

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Martin E Hartwell x2091 <meh@cbsms1.cb.att.com>
Subject: [3743] Re: test message
Message-ID: <9510031259.AA24752@emsr1.emsr.att.com>

Hello all

Yesterday someone sent a message saying they couldn't reach Paul at address "PaulKD8N@aol.com". Well I tried and here is the response from Paul. So it appears some people can't reach out to aol posters to the list. Then again it may have just been a glitch in the network that day.

Marty

>
> Thanks Marty, message received. Paul
>
>

--

Martin (Marty) Hartwell	Phone: (614) 860-2091
Room 3D286A	Amateur Radio Station KD8BJ
6200 E. Broad St.	Email meh@cbsms1.cb.att.com
Columbus, Ohio	ICBM: 39 58 N 82 49 W

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)

Subject: [3752] Re: test message

Message-ID: <199510040522.WAA27967@usr2.primenet.com>

At 09:55 PM 10/3/95 EDT, Martin E Hartwell x2091 wrote:

>Hello all

>

> Yesterday someone sent a message saying they couldn't reach

>Paul at address "PaulKD8N@aol.com". (more deleted)

Might try PaulKB8N@aol.com...worked for me.

72, de Roger

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995

From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)

Subject: [3722] Re: The ultimate QRP kit building experience

Message-ID: <v0213051cac97268a9fd3@[199.170.106.28]>

>Only question is, WHY would ANYONE want a digital "bargraph" S-meter?

I put one on my Sierra for three reasons:

1. I couldn't find an analog meter as small or flat as an LM3914 and a bargraph LED together, which take up only 0.3" of panel depth and about 1 square inch as viewed from the front. If there were a meter that size, sure, it would be preferable.
2. The bargraph and the driver chip together cost less than 1/3rd as much as any commercially available analog meter in small quantities, so the LED version would be preferable for a small company that wanted to build one in.
3. I use the rig outdoors and bang it up quite a bit, so I appreciate the ruggedness of the solid-state solution.

On the other hand, audio metering, where you use a tone or combination of tones, can be used effectively in some situations (such as an SWR bridge) and is even smaller. I'll probably take that approach when I design the internal antenna tuner for the '40A and Sierra.

I agree that the wiggling-type meter is better, for the same reason that it's hard to get a feeling of acceleration from a digital tachometer, but in some cases the points above override.

Wayne
N6KR

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [3723] Re: The ultimate QRP kit building experience
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951003132726.7349A-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Tue, 3 Oct 1995, Wayne Burdick wrote:

>
> >Only question is, WHY would ANYONE want a digital "bargraph" S-meter?
>
> I put one on my Sierra for three reasons:
>
<SNIP : Reasons deleted>

I think you completely missed the point. I (as well as many others)
believe that S-Meters are about as useful as teats on a bull.

73! =paul= wb8zjl

ObQRP : Can't wait for the foxhunt to begin tonight! The coordinating
frequency for Metro Detroit is the 147.18 (USECA) repeater. Lots of
chatter on the 2M band gets the tec-lites worked up and interested in
operation on HF and the fun that is available there.

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: "Charles A. Rubenstein" <rubenc@iglou.com>
Subject: [3732] Re: The ultimate QRP kit building experience
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.951003160453.27171A-100000@iglou2>

On Tue, 3 Oct 1995, Wayne Burdick wrote:

I'll probably take that approach when I design the
> internal antenna tuner for the '40A and Sierra.

Let me know when you design this tuner.....I *WANT* one for mine (40A)

72

Charlie Rubenstein
KB8BWE@N8LHG.#CIN.OH.USA.NA
rubenc@iglou.com

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: AE4KN@aol.com
Subject: [3730] Re: TT SCOUT PROBLEM 1
Message-ID: <951003153822_115321469@emout04.mail.aol.com>

You have it set to adjust keyer speed. 25 is the wpm setting. Check the manual for instructions on fixing, I beleive it's a switch, mine is in for repairs right now.

Hope that helps!
-Chris, AE4KN

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: AE4KN@aol.com
Subject: [3739] Re: TT SCOUT PROBLEM 1 1
Message-ID: <951003182554_115451370@emout04.mail.aol.com>

After reading about the other Scout probs, I thought I'd throw in my own... It seems lke whenever I use my 20 meter band module, the rig works fine, except the display is blank. I think some others have had this problem. I sent the rig back twice, both times it came back supposedly fixed, but I had the same problem. If any others are having that problem, here's my solution---

Stick in the module anyway, and if the display is blank, switch to SPEED; the keyer speed WILL appear on the display. Now go back to normal, and the display will work.

Okay, well, thanks for the bandwidth, hoped that helped someone.
-Chris, AE4KN

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [3740] RE: TT SCOUT PROBLEM 1 1
Message-ID: <n1399379740.86561@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

sure sounds like a high resistance connection that keeps something from going to counter display mode, until you overcome it with the switch transient, from the speed toggle operation. Did you tell Ten Tec about your fix? Maybe that will hone their understanding. A lot of times I will call a company, and if I have a "funny" ask for the person who designed "such and such circuit board". Sometimes you get the right guy to take an interest in your story. You might look at the module edge contacts, and solder joints on the speed switch and associated wires to the board and to the counter circuits.

Best of Luck.

73, Stuart K5KVH

From qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Jim Eshleman <lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [3766] Re: unsubscribe paul taylor wb2gin
Message-ID: <95Oct4.100600edt.4272-1+2@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

>

> Please get me off your list. this is my 3rd request.

If anyone wants to be removed from the list (*gasp*) and can't figure out how to do it themselves or having some other problem, please e-mail me privately at lujce@hooch.CC.Lehigh.EDU. Thanks.

If you're overwhelmed by fox hunt reports and such, do try changing your subscription to the daily digest before you jump ship. To do this send the following command, in the BODY of an e-mail, to listserv@Lehigh.EDU:

SET QRP-L MAIL DIGEST

You can also read the list postings via WWW. Just point your client at:

<http://www.lehigh.edu/lists/archives/qrp-l>

If you decide to go this route, you can turn off your subscription but still remain a member of the list by sending the following command, in the BODY of an e-mail, to listserv@Lehigh.EDU:

SET QRP-L MAIL POSTPONE

Finally, to change from the DIGEST or POSTPONE modes back to getting flooded with individual postings again, send the following command, in the BODY of an e-mail, to listserv@Lehigh.EDU:

SET QRP-L MAIL ACK

Thanks for your support, sorry for the noise, etc.

73

Jim N3VXI

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: Harry_Chase@smtpgw.windata.com (Harry Chase)
Subject: [3729] RE: Wire antenna help...?
Message-ID: <9509038127.AA812758870@smtpgw.windata.com>

> Just you have to put more
> radials to make it work as well as elevated verticals. Again you make
> it look like a flagpole. Who could object to being patriotic?
(snip)

--Obviously those who established a set of restrictions on a property - a part of which YOU paid good \$\$ for - which forbid you to do almost *anything* on the property, are *NOT* patriotic; at least to anything the USA is supposed to stand for!

The fact that so many of them are getting away with this stuff is especially frightening.

Harry
WA1VVH

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: "N100Q Tom R. @ MR01 04-Oct-1995 0844" <randolph@est.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [3759] re: Wire antenna help...?
Message-ID: <9510041311.AA11388@us4rnc.pko.dec.com>

> --Obviously those who established a set of restrictions on a
> property - a part of which YOU paid good \$\$ for - which forbid you to
> do almost *anything* on the property, are *NOT* patriotic; at least
> to anything the USA is supposed to stand for!
> The fact that so many of them are getting away with this stuff is
> especially frightening.

The fact that anyone would fall for it is equally frightening. What they've essentially done is signed away partial ownership of their property. I wouldn't live there, or if I had to, I'd be pushing to get myself to a power position on the homeowner's association, where I would begin changing all their little rules...

I don't mean this as a slam at anyone who lives in such a neighborhood... there's nothing stopping anyone from signing away their rights if that's what

they want to do, I just hope they fully realize what they're signing their names to.

ObQRP:

Got some good books from Motorola the other day..."RF Device Data", order number DL110/D, and "RF Application Reports", order number HB215/D. Lots of good info on RF power transistors and FETs for you designers out there... These go for about \$5 each, but I got 'em free by dropping them a request on company letterhead... they'll usually do that for onesie-twosie quantities of books. Another good publication of theirs to get is "Technical Literature and Information Guide", order number BR101/D, which is a pamphlet listing all their databooks and applications guides, quite a few of which have something to do with radio! Write to:

Motorola Literature Distribution
PO Box 20912
Phoenix, Ariz, 85036
or in the USA call 1 800 441 2447

One hitch with their books is the fact that many of the transistors commonly specified in old QRP project articles are no longer made by them! They don't publish data on discontinued stuff! I buy old databooks at flea markets for those... \$1/book or less.

-Tom R. N100Q randolph@est.enet.dec.com

From qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Wed Oct 4 10:31:00 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [3721] Re: Wire antenna help...? (long)
Message-ID: <951003122651_115203299@emout04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-10-02 14:36:01 EDT, dsa@apollo.hp.com writes:

> I live in one of those neighborhoods where the covenants are extreme
> and enforced. ie. NO: antennas, clotheslines, boats, campers, etc.
> It's actually worse than that, you MUST keep your garage door closed
> at all times, unless you are moving your vehicle in/out. You MUST
> get approval from the association committee before you can change the
> color of the paint (even trim) of your house or to plant a tree on
> your property. Your lawn must be mowed and weed free at all times,
> no outside pets, and so on and so on. The neighborhood is policed
> by anal-retentive, opulent, pompous, aged, busybodies whose lives
> have no purpose other than to bag people for minor infractions. Get
> the picture? So, whatever I use will have to be unnoticeable, or
> we'll face stiff fines. Now before anybody starts lecturing me on

> agreeing to the covenants and moving into a place like this, I want
> to say that I did NOT choose this neighborhood. My wife lived here
> before we were married, and moving away at this time is not practical.
>
> Back to my situation. There are no trees mature enough for me to run
> a long wire to, and my shack will be in the basement. I think the
> best I can do is run something peak to peak around the roof of the
> house. The house is of contemporary architecture with lots of dormers,
> turrets, etc. so the wire won't have to run directly on the roof. I
> must also use wire capable of withstanding the 100+ mph gusts we're
> prone to here in Colorado's mountain foothills.
>
> My concerns are feeding the antenna wire from below ground level.
> I would think that I'd need to use some type of feedline as opposed
> to feeding it directly from the tuner. The feed will have to pass
> thru an aluminum framed window below ground level, up 5' thru a
> window well, horizontally near the ground, then up the corner of
> the house near a gutter downspout, under the 20' rain gutter then
> on to the roof. I think my SWR will be off the scale unless I'm
> using coax. Speaking of SWR, I am also concerned with what running
> the wire so close to the roof (cedar shingles with a zillion staples)
> will do, AND the house is only about 25' high so my angle of radiation
> (assuming there is any given the collective losses) will be quite
> high, especially for the 40m band I wish to work. The house has no
> attic, (cathedral ceilings throughout) so hiding something in there
> is also out. None of the wire antenna books I've read help in my
> given situation. I haven't room for a dipole and hiding the coax
> will be nearly impossible. Loading up the gutters may be an option,
> but probably no more effecient than loading a coat hanger.
>
> Am I SOL here or what?

Nope, you're not SOL. I would steer away from dipoles with coax in concealed ops though.

Dipoles and vees are nice up high and in the open, but when you start running the wires next to roofs, shingles, etc... and folding the wire pretty soon you lose the benefit of the antenna- simple direct 50 ohm feed on one band with coax.

Some hams wrongly try to correct extreme mismatches on a coax-fed dipole with a tuner, or worse, try and forcefeed a 20 meter dipole on 80... you get the picture.

In concealed ops there is the problem of concealing the coax also. Some hams also have a "thing" for humongous insulators that look like rejects from a 50's horror film, or think they need "antenna wire". You can do a good job if the antenna is made from stranded, jacketed wire- use a nice gray, brown

or other color to match.

On shingled places I have tucked the wire under the shingles to keep it in place. This zig-zags the wire, but the bends are kept well under 90 degrees.

SWR? Coax? Not!

These were long-ish random wires fed at the end with a tuner and worked against a counterpoise.

You can also feed a concealed or low-profile at the center with TV 300 ohm line if there is a way to blend it in.

Your wire will get out slightly better, maybe an S-unit or two if it is suspended between peaks, but don't overlook using a lot more wire and attaching it right to the roof. Rain or ice on the roof may detune the wire, but since it's not pruned for 50 ohms on one frequency with coax- don't worry, use your tuner.

What about wire length? Use whatever works with your tuner on all nine bands without having to change lengths and re-prune. Ideally, the wire should be more than 1/4 at the lowest freq to be somewhat efficient, and can be more.

Your counterpoise should be whatever length works on all bands. Get a counterpoise/antenna length combo which works on all bands. The counterpoise on a random wire is like the "opposite side" of a dipole, it receives and radiates too. Treat the counterpoise like the antenna, up high and all that.

A lot of the talk about antenna length is for special pattern antennas, and on a concealed antenna hugging a house there will be no pretty dipole or longwire pattern.. so forget length. Other ancient wire antenna articles made noise about length because in the 30's and 40's when they were written, finals were harmonically related, push-pull and high impedance so the balanced feeder and flat-top had to be exact.

The bottom line is not to worry about coax feed and exact length (besides doing it that way restricts you to one band per antenna). Use a random wire or center-fed wire with a tuner and you will have more bands and better concealment.

73, Jay
WB6AAM